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TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

3

Application Number

10/625,042

Filing Date

07/22/2003

First Named Inventor

Remo Anton Hochstrasser

Art Unit

1743

Examiner Name

Samuel P. Siefke

Attorney Docket Number

21272 US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

☐

Fee Transmittal Form

☐

Fee Attached

☒

Amendment/Reply

☐

After Final

☐

Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐

Extension of Time Request

☐

Express Abandonment Request

☐

Information Disclosure Statement

☐

Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐

Response to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application

☐

Response to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

☐

Drawing(s)

☐

Licensing-related Papers

☐

Petition

☐

Petition to Convert to a
Provisional Application

☐

Power of Attorney, Revocation

☐

Change of Correspondence Address

☐

Terminal Disclaimer

☐

Request for Refund

☐

CD, Number of CD(s) _____

☐

After Allowance communication
to Group

☐

Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and Interferences
Appeal Communication to Group
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)

☐

Proprietary Information

☐

Status Letter

☐

Other Enclosure(s) (please
Identify below):

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm
or
Individual name

Karen J. Jacobs

Signature

Karen J. Jacobs

Date

09/18/2006

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Date

09/18/2006

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application

Confirmation No.

Inventors: Hochstrasser et al.

Group: 1743

Application No. 10/625,042, filed July 22, 2003
(Case Docket No. 21272 US)

Examiner: Samuel P. Siefke

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR LOCATING AND CUTTING OUT
CONCENTRATIONS IN A GEL

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO AUGUST 17, 2006 OFFICE ACTION

Nutley, New Jersey 07110
September 18, 2006

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Communication is filed in response to the August 17, 2006 Office issued in connection with the above-identified patent application. A response was originally due September 17, 2006. However, since September 17, 2006 is a Sunday, a response to this Office Action is due the next business day, September 18, 2006 and is timely filed herewith.

In the Office Action restriction was required under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Specifically, there are allegedly six independent and distinct groups of inventions:

- | | | |
|------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| I. | Claims 1-8 | Classified in class 436, subclass 174 |
| II. | Claims 9-11 | Classified in class 422, subclass 104 |
| III. | Claims 12-14 | Classified in class 422, subclass 99 |

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|-----|--------------|--|
| IV. | Claims 15-19 | Classified in class 436, subclass 177 |
| V. | Claims 20-21 | Classified in class 422, subclass 101 |
| VI. | Claims 22-26 | Classified in class 422, subclass 68.1 |

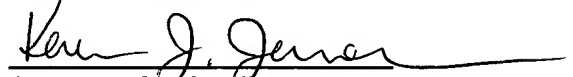
In response to this restriction requirement, applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute at this time Group I, claims 1-8. Applicants traverse this restriction on the grounds that it would not be a serious burden for the Examiner to examine all claims at one time. All claims in the subject application are directed to a device or method for locating and cutting out concentrations in a gel.

Applicants further note that even if the restriction requirement is not withdrawn, it would not be a burden for the Examiner to examine Groups I and IV together as these Groups are in the same class. Similarly, Groups II, III, V and VI are in the same class, and accordingly, it would not be an undue burden for the Examiner to examine the claims in all of those Groups at one time.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in furthering prosecution, applicants request that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the number below.

No fee is required in connection the filing of this Communication. If any fees are deemed necessary, authorization is given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 08-2525.

Respectfully submitted,



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